

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Charlie Wilson (OH-6) today released the following statement following news that President Bush had signed legislation to temporarily suspend the filling of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve through the end of the year, as long as the price of crude oil remains above \$75 per barrel. Current shipments to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, which is now 97-percent full, will end on June 30.

“I’m pleased that President Bush has signed the legislation to temporarily suspend filling the petroleum reserve. It should help us by keeping the amount of supply we have higher than it would normally be.

If we can drop the price of gasoline 20 or 25 cents a gallon I think that’s huge. At least we’re heading in the right direction, coming down versus going up. We’ve just seen staggering increases in the gas prices.

There needs to be oversight. One of the problems is we haven’t had oversight, just like we have in our housing market. We have had a decline and foreclosure rate go through the ceiling simply because there’s been no oversight. Same type of thing is going on with gas prices.”